

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 311288  
ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

S E C R E T STATE 311288

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MNUC, TW

SUBJECT: U S NUCLEAR TEAM VISIT

REFERENCE: TAIPEI 8173

1. THE US NUCLEAR TEAM WILL BE LED BY EA/ROC DIRECTOR, BURTON LEVIN; ERDA DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTATION, GERARD HELFRICH WILL BE DEPUTY. TEAM WILL ARRIVE TAIPEI BY SUNDAY, JANUARY 16, SO THAT WORK MAY COMMENCE ON JANUARY 17. VISIT IS TENTATIVELY PLANNED FOR TWO WEEKS WITH OPTION OF SOME EXTENSION IF THAT

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 311288

PROVES NECESSARY. FULL LIST OF TEAM MEMBERS (ABOUT 7 PERSONS) AND TRAVEL SCHEDULES WILL BE SENT AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.

2. OBJECTIVES: THE TEAMS TWO PRIME OBJECTIVES ARE 1) TO CONDUCT A THOROUGH REVIEW OF ROC NUCLEAR FACILITIES TO

IMPROVE OUR KNOWLEDGE OF ROC ACTIVITIES AND TO PROVIDE A BASIS FOR DECISIONS ON A NUMBER OF NUCLEAR ISSUES FACING US AND 2) TO ENSURE THAT ROC OFFICIALS AT ALL LEVELS ARE FAMILIAR WITH OUR CURRENT NON-PROLIFERATION POLICIES AND AWARE OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE PREMIER'S ASSURANCES. WE ARE ALSO INTERESTED IN EX-

ERCISING, AND THEREBY CONFIRMING, GROC OFFER OF UNRESTRICTED ACCESS TO ANY NUCLEAR-RELATED FACILITY. THE TEAM DOES NOT PLAN TO MAKE A DETAILED TECHNICAL INSPECTION OF THE KIND THAT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO DEFINITELY RESOLVE OUR UNCERTAINTIES ABOUT ROC ACTIVITIES. WE ARE NOT SURE THAT EVEN A PROLONGED AND INTENSE INSPECTION COULD ACCOMPLISH THIS, AND TEAM WISHES TO AVOID GIVING THE IMPRESSION THAT ITS VISIT HAS RESOLVED THESE UNCERTAINTIES OR THAT IT HAS GIVEN ROC A CLEAR BILL OF HEALTH ON NUCLEAR MATTERS. NEVERTHELESS, THIS WILL BE MOST IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF ROC FACILITIES AND PROGRAMS.

3. APPROACH: TO SUPPORT OUR POLICY OBJECTIVES, TEAM WISHES TO CONVEY AN IMPRESSION OF CONTINUING SKEPTICISM ABOUT ROC ACTIVITIES. WE FULLY CONCUR THAT TEAM MUST KEEP OPEN ITS OPTIONS AND CONTROL THE TIMING AND SELECTION OF THE FACILITIES IT WISHES TO VISIT. WE WILL WANT TO TEST THE ROC WILLINGNESS TO ALLOW US TO VISIT SPECIFIC FACILITIES ON SHORT NOTICE AND TO HAVE ACCESS TO FACILITIES NOT PUBLICLY ASSOCIATED WITH ROC'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM. TO EMPHASIZE BUSINESS LIKE NATURE OF VISIT, TEAM WISHES TO KEEP SOCIAL CONTACTS WITH CHINESE TO A MINIMUM.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 311288

4. SCHEDULING: WE CONCUR IN YOUR COMMENTS RE SCHEDULING. IN GENERAL, WE ENVISAGE SPENDING FIRST DAY WITH EMBASSY, SECOND DAY ON CALLS IN TAIPEI, THIRD AND FOURTH DAYS FOR INITIAL VISITS TO CIST/INER, FIFTH DAY AT CHINGHUA AND UNION RESEARCH AND SIXTH DAY AT TAIPOWER'S NORTH TAIWAN REACTOR SITES. SECOND WEEK SCHEDULE WOULD DEPEND ON OUTCOME OF FIRST WEEK'S WORK, BUT WOULD INCLUDE RETURN VISITS TO CIST/INER. WE AGREE THAT LAST DAY SHOULD BE DEVOTED TO WIND UP CONSULTATIONS WITH EMBASSY AND FINAL POLICY LEVEL CALLS ON CHINESE. TEAM WISHES TO RESERVE A PERIOD AT THE END OF EACH WORKING DAY TO RETURN TO EMBASSY TO REVIEW ITS WORK AND PLAN FOR NEXT DAY.

5. CALLS: TEAM WILL WISH TO BEGIN WITH CALL ON VICE FOREIGN MINISTER CHIEN TO REVIEW ITS PLANS AND ESTABLISH GROUND-RULES UNDER WHICH TEAM EXPECTS TO WORK. SUBSEQUENTLY, TEAM WILL WISH TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH MND

(KAO AND SUNG), MOEA (SUN), CAEC (CHIEN AND CHENG), NATIONAL SCIENCE COUNCIL (SHU), TAIPOWER (CHEN AND CHU), CIST (TANG AND HSIA) AND INER (CHIEN, LI AND OTHERS). FULL TEAM WOULD PARTICIPATE IN EACH OF THESE VISITS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CALLS AT MND AND MOEA, WHICH WOULD BE MADE BY LEVIN, HELFRICH AND ACDA REPRESENTATIVE AC-COMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR. AT CONCLUSION OF VISIT, LEVIN, HELFRICH AND ACDA REPRESENTATIVE, AGAIN ACCOMPANIED BY

AMBASSADOR, WOULD HAVE WRAP-UP DISCUSSIONS WITH CHOU SHU-KAI AND FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN. WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS DESIRABLE FOR TEAM TO SEEK APPOINTMENTS WITH PREMIER CHIANG OR PRESIDENT YEN.

6. FACILITY VISITS: VISITS TO CIST AND INER WILL BE THE HEART OF TEAM'S WORK. AT INER, TEAM WILL WISH TO VISIT EVERY BUILDING IN THE EXPANDED INER COMPLEX AND TO SEE ENOUGH OF EACH BUILDING TO ACQUIRE AN ADEQUATE UNDER-SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 311288

STANDING OF ITS FACILITIES AND USES. MUCH GREATER ATTENTION WILL BE DEVOTED TO THOSE SPECIFIC FACILITIES LISTED IN REFTTEL. TEAM IS STILL CONSIDERING WHICH FACILITIES AT CIST OR ELSEWHERE NEARBY IT WILL WISH TO VISIT AND HOW TO REQUEST ACCESS TO THEM. IN ADDITION, TEAM WILL WISH TO VISIT, CHING HUA UNIVERSITY FACILITIES, UNION RESEARCH INSTITUTE, TAIPOWER'S REACTOR SITES IN NORTHERN TAIWAN AND EARTHQUAKE RESEARCH CENTER. TEAM DOES NOT WISH TO VISIT TAIPOWER'S MANSHAAN REACTOR SITE, BUT WISHES TO HOLD OPEN OPTION TO CHARTERING PLANE FOR VISIT TO PROPOSED WASTE DISPOSAL SITE ON ORCHID ISLAND, AGAIN PARTLY TO ESTABLISH OUR ACCESS TO SUCH PLACES. DURING FIRST WEEK, TEAM WILL MAKE ALL SUCH VISITS AS A GROUP, BUT IT MAY WISH TO SPLIT UP FOR SOME OF SECOND WEEK'S WORK.

7. SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS: ALL TEAM MEMBERS WILL HAVE THE APPROPRIATE CLEARANCES FOR ACCESS TO ALL INFORMATION ON ROC'S NUCLEAR FACILITIES. WE APPRECIATE THE IMPORTANCE OF NOT COMPROMISING OUR SOURCES AND THUS ARE CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED TO CONCEAL THE EXTENT OF OUR KNOWLEDGE OF ROC ACTIVITIES. TEAM INTENDS TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH EMBASSY ON THIS MATTER THROUGHOUT VISIT.

8. PUBLICITY: WE WISH TO MINIMIZE PUBLICITY AND PUBLIC SPECULATION ABOUT TEAM'S VISIT. NO PUBLIC STATEMENTS OR MEETINGS WITH PRESS ARE CONTEMPLATED, AND INFORMATION WOULD BE PROVIDED TO PRESS ONLY ON AN IF ASKED BASIS. WHEN ASKED, WE PLAN TO REPLY ONLY ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: TEAM (NAMES AND TITLES WOULD BE PROVIDED) IS VISITING

TAIWAN TO REVIEW THE ROC NUCLEAR PROGRAMS AND TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING COOPERATION IN THE PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY. NO FURTHER EXPLANATION OF TEAM'S PURPOSES WILL BE PROVIDED; TEAM WILL DECIDE HOW MUCH FACTUAL INFORMATION TO PROVIDE PRESS ON ITS ACTIVITIES, AFTER ARRIVING ON TAIWAN. ALL PRESS INQUIRIES SHOULD BE SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 05 STATE 311288

REFERRED TO STATE (EA/ROC), OR, DURING VISIT, TO TEAM'S LEADER LEVIN.

9. WE RECOGNIZE THAT ROC WILL ATTEMPT TO EXPLOIT VISIT

FOR ITS OWN PURPOSES. CONSEQUENTLY, WE WISH TO INFORM MOFA EARLY OF OUR DESIRE TO AVOID PUBLICITY.

10. ACTION REQUEST: (A) EMBASSY SHOULD AT THIS POINT, INFORM MOFA (VICE MINISTER CHIEN) ONLY THAT TEAM, LED BY LEVIN AND HELFRICH, PLANS TO BEGIN WORK IN TAIPEI ON MONDAY, JANUARY 17, AND THAT TEAM WILL WISH TO MEET WITH VICE MINISTER CHIEN EARLY ON JANUARY 18. YOU SHOULD FURTHER INFORM MOFA THAT US DOES NOT WISH ANY PUBLICITY ON TEAM VISIT. PLEASE REPORT CHIEN'S RESPONSE. (B) EMBASSY SHOULD ASK MOFA TO INFORM INER THAT TEAM WILL BEGIN VISIT ON JANUARY 17 AND THAT TEAM WILL WISH TO CONDUCT A THOROUGH REVIEW OF ALL PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES IN THE EXPANDED INER COMPLEX. EMBASSY SHOULD REQUEST MOFA TO OBTAIN FROM INER, PRIOR TO TEAM'S ARRIVAL, COPIES OF FLOOR PLANS FOR ALL BUILDINGS AT INER CONTAINING NUCLEAR FACILITIES OR NUCLEAR MATERIALS, INCLUDING RADIO ISOTOPES. TEAM REQUIRES ONLY SIMPLE EXISTING FLOOR PLANS OF THE TYPE USED FOR FIRE OR EMERGENCY EXIT PURPOSES (I.E., NOT DETAILED BLUE PRINTS). FLOOR PLANS ARE BEING REQUESTED SO THAT TEAM WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE MOST EFFICIENT USE OF ITS TIME AT INER. (C) WITH COMMENTS ABOVE IN MIND, EMBASSY SHOULD PROVIDE DEPARTMENT BY JANUARY 5 A PROPOSED ITINERARY FOR THE FIRST WEEK OF THE VISIT. DO NOT DISCUSS ITINERARY WITH ROC AT THIS TIME. (D) WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY FURTHER SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE. ROBINSON

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